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Ecclesiastes seems to have anticipated Dalrymple, and it is far from likely that Australia was known to the remotest antiquity. Midas and Manilius do not meet the requirements of the case. Neither are the indications in the mediæval maps conclusive. Important as they are, it is easy to overestimate their importance where they designate regions as yet unvisited by Europeans.

It is probable, as Mr. Major has shown, that the Portuguese reached Australia in the sixteenth century; but the real discovery, in the usual sense of the word, dates from the year 1606, when Torres sailed through the strait that bears his name, and the Dutch landed at Cape York.

The numerous reproductions of maps in the volume are very well done.

The Land of the Nile Springs, being Chiefly An Account of how we fought Kabarega. By Colonel Sir Henry Colvile, K.C.M.G., C.B., Grenadier Guards. Illustrated by Mr. J. Burrell-Smith and Mr. Twidle from Sketches by the Author and Major Thruston and from photographs by the Author. 8vo. Edward Arnold, London and New York, 1895.

Col. Colvile says in his preface that he wrote, some years ago, an official history of a campaign, and that he has contributed a good deal to Blue Book Literature. He adds:

I trust that the habits acquired during these experiences may be considered a sufficient excuse for any items of useful information that I may have allowed to slip into the following pages.

It is easy to forgive imaginary sins, but there is no excuse for this book. Col. Colvile's line of march was from Mombasa to the Victoria Nyanza and the Albert Nyanza, and detached expeditions were sent off to the right and to the left. Kabarega kept himself pretty well out of harm's way, after setting his capital on fire before the enemy reached it. The native forces, on both sides, were shy of fighting, the real work being done by the Sudanese, who make good soldiers.

Two maps and a number of fair illustrations enliven this uninteresting story.

Expedición Científica al Popocatepetl. José G. Aguilera y Ezequiel Ordoñez, geólogos de la Comisión Geológica Mexicana. 8vo. México, 1895.

The report of this expedition is dated October, 1894. It begins with a brief description of the country around the City of Mexico